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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

031792-0311553

IN RE PATENT Michael M. TSO APPLICATION OF:

SERIAL NO.: 09/854.423 FILING DATE: May 10, 2001

ATTORNEY DOCKET

CONFIRMATION NO.: 7666

> THU THAO HAVAN EXAMINER:

> > ART UNIT: 3695

> > > For: Using Currency to Purchase from Sellers

> > > > that do not Recognize the Currency

APPELLANT'S BRIEF ON APPEAL UNDER

37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Further to the Notice of Panel Decision dated April 10, 2009 (and the Notice of Appeal filed March 2, 2009), Appellant respectfully submits Appellant's Brief on Appeal pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37 (which is timely submitted on October 13, 2009 because of the October 12, 2009 Federal Holiday).

Appellant has filed concurrently herewith a petition for a five-month extension of time. 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1). The Director is authorized to charge the \$1,175.00 small entity petition fee, as well as the \$270.00 small entity fee for filing an Appeal Brief pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.20(b)(2). The Director is further authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same to Deposit Account No. 033975 (Ref. No. 031792-0311553).

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REQUIREMENTS OF 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Real Party in Interest - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(i)

The Real Party in Interest, as explained below, is believed to be Invenda Corporation.

No. 60/203,422, filed on May 10, 2000 (hereinafter the '422 Provisional"). The '422 Provisional was assigned from Inktomi Corporation to e-Centives, Inc. by virtue of a Patent Assignment executed on March 19, 2001, and this Assignment was duly recorded

The instant application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial

on April 11, 2001 at REEL 011680, FRAME 0859. A copy of this Patent Assignment is attached hereto as Exhibit A. By virtue of the executed Patent Assignment, e-Centives.

Inc. possesses the "entire right, title, and interest" in and to the '422 Provisional, as well as "all applications for Letters Patent"...."filed for inventions embodied by"... the '422

Provisional (which includes the instant application). e-Centives, Inc. later changed its

name to Invenda Corporation (see Change of Name document executed 05/17/07, and recorded on 08/02/07 at REEL 019628, FRAME 0862).

e-Centives, inc. (now Invenda Corporation) has controlled prosecution of the instant application since at least September 30, 2002 (mailing date of "Notice of

Acceptance of Power of Attorney").

Approximately five years after Inktomi Corporation assigned the subject matter of and applications relating to the '422 Provisional to e-Centives, Inc., Inktomi

Corporation executed a Patent Assignment (on 06/12/06) purporting to assign the instant application to Yahoo! Inc. (see REEL 018361, FRAME 0511 as recorded on

10/06/06). Appellant (Invenda Corporation) believes this second assignment to be an inadvertant oversight on the part of Inktomi Corporation since the instant application is

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owned by Invenda Corporation pursuant to the Patent Assignment attached in Exhibit A.

Appellant is curently working with the relevant parties to resolve this apparent
misunderstanding.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ii)

Appellant is aware of no related appeals or interferences.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(iii)

Pending: Claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 are pending.

Cancelled: Claims 2, 10, 16, 24, 30 and 38 are cancelled.

Rejected: Claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 stand rejected.

Allowed: No claims have been allowed.

On Appeal: Claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 are appealed.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(iv)

No amendments have been filed subsequent to the mailing of the Final Office Action on September 30, 2008 (hereinafter "Final Action").

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(v)

The following exemplary citations to the Specification and drawing figures are <u>not</u> exclusive, as other examples of support for the claimed subject matter exist. As such, the following citations should not be viewed as limiting.

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Independent Claim 1.

One aspect of Appellant's invention relates to a computer-implemented method of processing a transaction. [e.g., pg. 3, lines 2-10].

In particular, the method may comprise receiving at an intermediary, from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency. [e.g., pg. 6, lines 12-14; pg. 7, lines 15-17; pg. 9, lines 1-71

The method may further comprise decrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and incrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant. [e.g., pg. 6, lines 14-19; pg. 7, lines 17-21; pg. 9, lines 15-18, and lines 21-22; pg. 10, lines 4-12]

The method may further comprise processing the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant. [e.g., pg. 6, lines 19-20; pg. 7, lines 21-23; pg. 9, line 23-pg. 10, line 11

В. Independent Claim 15.

One aspect of the Appellant's invention relates to a computer-readable medium including computer-executable instructions for processing a transaction. [e.g., pg. 15, lines 4-111

In particular, the computer-readable medium may include instructions operable when executed by one or more processors to cause the one or more processors to [pg. 15. lines 9-121:

receive at an intermediary, from a first participant in the transaction, a

Customer No.: 00909

APPELLANT'S BRIEF ON APPEAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37 Submitted: OCTOBER 13, 2009

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request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency; [e.g., pg. 6, lines 12-14; pg. 7, lines 15-17; pg. 9, lines 1-7]

decrement, by the intermediary, an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and increment, by the intermediary, an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant; and [e.g., pg. 6, lines 14-19; pg. 7, lines 17-21; pg. 9, lines 15-18, and lines 21-22; pg. 10, lines 4-12]

process the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant. [e.g., pg. 6, lines 19-20; pg. 7, lines 21-23; pg. 9, line 23-pg. 10, line 1]

C. Independent Claim 29.

One aspect of the Appellant's invention relates to an apparatus for processing a transaction. [e.g., pg. 3, lines 11-22]

In particular, the apparatus may comprise an input/output mechanism configured to receive, from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency. [e.g., pg. 3, lines 13-16; pg. 6, lines 12-14; pg. 7, lines 15-17; pg. 9, lines 1-7]

The apparatus may further comprise a transaction processor communicatively coupled to the input/output mechanism and configured to, in response to receiving the request from the first participant, decrement an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and increment an amount of second currency associated with the first

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participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant, and process the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant. [e.g., pg. 3, lines 16-22; pg. 6, lines 14-20; pg. 7, lines 17-23; pg. 9, lines 15-18, and lines 21-23; pg. 10, lines 1-12]

D. Dependent Claims 3-9, 14, 17-23, 28, and 31-37.

Claims 3-9, 14, 17-23, 28, and 31-37 are dependent claims argued separately.

Dependent Claim 3.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 3, in the method of claim 1, the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary may be determined upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the intermediary. [e.g., pg. 8, lines 21-23]

2. Dependent Claim 4.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 4, in the method of claim 1, the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary may be determined based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria. [e.g., pg. 10, lines 19-21]

Dependent Claim 5.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 5, in the method of claim 4, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include a time at which the request from the first participant is received. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

Dependent Claim 6.

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According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 6, in the method of claim 4, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the first participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

Dependent Claim 7.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 7, in the method of claim 4, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the second participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

6. Dependent Claim 8.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 8, in the method of claim 4, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

7. Dependent Claim 9.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 9, in the method of claim 8, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include which products or services are involved in the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

8. Dependent Claim 14.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim

14, in the method of claim 1, may further comprise:

receiving at the intermediary, from the first participant, a request to process a second transaction involving the first participant and a third participant using the first currency that is not recognized by the third participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 8-11]

decrementing, by the intermediary, an additional amount of the first currency associated with the first participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 12-14]

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incrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of third currency associated with the first participant, wherein the third currency is recognized by the third participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 11-12 and 14-15] and

processing the second transaction using the amount of the third currency. [e.g., pg. 8, lines 15-17]

Dependent Claim 17.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 17, in the computer-readable medium of claim 15, the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary may be determined based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the intermediary. [e.g., pg. 8, lines 21-23]

10. Dependent Claim 18.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 18, in the computer-readable medium of claim 15, the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary may be determined based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria. [e.g., pg. 10. lines 19-21]

11. Dependent Claim 19.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 19, in the computer-readable medium of claim 18, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include a time at which the request from the first participant is received. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

12. Dependent Claim 20.

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According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 20, in the computer-readable medium of claim 18, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the first participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

13. Dependent Claim 21.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 21, in the computer-readable medium of claim 18, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the second participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

14. Dependent Claim 22.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 22, in the computer-readable medium of claim 18, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

15. Dependent Claim 23.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 23, in the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include which products or services are involved in the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

16. Dependent Claim 28.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 28, in the computer-readable medium of claim 15, may further comprise computer-executable instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to:

receive at the intermediary, from the first participant, a request to process a

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second transaction involving the first participant and a third participant using the first currency that is not recognized by the third participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 8-11]

decrement, by the intermediary, an additional amount of the first currency associated with the first participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 12-14]

increment, by the intermediary, an amount of third currency associated with the first participant, wherein the third currency is recognized by the third participant; [e.g., pg. 8, lines 11-12 and 14-15] and

process the second transaction using the amount of the third currency [e.g., pg. 8. lines 15-17].

17. Dependent Claim 31.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 31, in the apparatus of claim 29, the transaction processor may be further configured to determine the amount of second currency to be incremented based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented. [e.g., pg. 8, lines 21-23]

18. Dependent Claim 32.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 32, in the apparatus of claim 29, the transaction processor may be further configured to determine the amount of second currency incremented based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria. [e.g., pg. 10, lines 19-21]

19. Dependent Claim 33.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim

33, in the apparatus of claim 32, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include a
time at which the request from the first participant is received. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

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Dependent Claim 34.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 34, in the apparatus of claim 32, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the first participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

21. Dependent Claim 35.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 35, in the apparatus of claim 32, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the second participant. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

22. Dependent Claim 36.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 36, in the apparatus of claim 32, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include one or more attributes of the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

23. Dependent Claim 37.

According to one aspect of Appellant's invention, as recited in dependent claim 37, in the apparatus of claim 36, the set of one or more conversion criteria may include which products or services are involved in the transaction. [e.g., pg. 11, lines 1-5]

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(vi)

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,061,660 to

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Eggleston et al. (hereinafter "Eggleston") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,968,873 to Dethloff (hereinafter "Dethloff"). [Final Action, pg. 4].

VII. ARGUMENTS - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(vii)

The rejection of each of claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 should be reversed for the reasons set forth herein.

A. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Eggleston in view of Dethloff is improper and must be reversed for at least the reason that the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Assuming arguendo that it were legally proper to modify Eggleston to include the teachings of Dethloff in the manner alleged by the Examiner (which Appellant does not concede), the rejection would still be improper for at least the reason that neither Eggleston nor Dethloff, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest all the features of at least independent claims 1, 15, and 29.

i. Independent Claims 1, 15, and 29

The Examiner erroneously relies on Eggleston for the teachings of an intermediary. The Examiner has failed to establish that Eggleston discloses an intermediary as claimed. Assuming arguendo, that Eggleston teaches an intermediary (which is not conceded), Eggleston clearly fails to disclose at least the following features of claim 1 which further recite features of the intermediary:

receiving at an intermediary from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not

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recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency;

decrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and incrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant:

a. Eggleston's telecommunications connection is <u>not</u> an intermediary.

The Examiner erroneously alleges that "[a]n intermediary as claimed corresponds to a telecommunications connections [38] in Eggleston since they are both a connection to link information between users." [Final Action, pgs. 3-4]. This is not a reasonable interpretation in light of the specification and claims and, in fact, ignores the description of the term "intermediary" in the Specification and the express recitations of the claims as a whole regarding what the intermediary does. The Examiner refers to paragraph 21 of Appellant's Specification to allegedly support his interpretation. [Final Action, pg. 2].

Paragraph 21 of Appellant's Specification recites:

Participant 202 is communicatively coupled to intermediary 206 via a communications link 208. Participant 204 is communicatively coupled to intermediary 206 via a communications link 210. Communications link 208, 210 may be implemented by any media or mechanism that provides for the exchange of data between participant 202 and intermediary 206, and between participant 204 and intermediary 206. Examples of communication links 208, 210 include, without limitation, any number of networks, such as Local Area Networks (LANS), Wide Area Networks (WANS), Ethernets or the Internet, or one or more terrestrial, satellite or wireless links.

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The Examiner's interpretation is legally flawed because it is clear that the

specification separately uses the terms "intermediary" and "communications link" to be

different things. The proper interpretation of the intermediary is not a communication

link as alleged by the Examiner. Instead, it is clear that the intermediary is connected via

communication links. Thus, Eggleston's telecommunications connection 38 cannot

properly be used to read on Appellant's intermediary.

Eggleston does not disclose the claimed functions of the

intermediary.

Examiner must consider the claim as a whole

Even if the Examiner's interpretation of the intermediary is assumed, arguendo, to be correct and the telecommunications link 38 of Eggleston could somehow be argued

to be an intermediary, then the rejection would still fail as a matter of law. The Examiner clearly fails to consider the claim as a whole. Considered as a whole, the claim recites

that the intermediary is used for:

 receiving a request from a first participant in the transaction to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction; 2) decrementing an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a

balance of a first currency account of the first participant; and 3) incrementing an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of

the first participant.

Clearly, Eggleston's telecommunication connection 38 does not perform these

claimed operations.

Eggleston fails to teach or suggest a transaction (between a first participant and second participant) involving a first currency that

is not recognized by a second participant.

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The Examiner has not established a prima facie case that this recitation is met by Eggleston. In fact, the Examiner has taken alternative positions regarding entities in Eggleston which the Examiner alleges are "analogous" to Appellant's first and second participants. Neither position is legally sound and the Examiner has failed to establish that Eggleston discloses an intermediary that satisfies this limitation.

Interpretation 1

Under the first interpretation the Examiner alleges that in Eggleston, the consumer is a "first participant" and the retailer is a "second participant. [Final Action: pg. 4, lines 10-11]. The rejection is legally improper under this interpretation because, in Eggleston, an award redemption transaction (alleged transaction) between the consumer (alleged first participant) and the retailer (alleged second participant) does not constitute a transaction involving a first currency, whether private or otherwise, that is not recognized by the retailer.

In Eggleston, an award is redeemed at a retailer using a card that is issued to a consumer. Eggleston, at col. 44, line 64- col. 45, line 13; and column 42, lines 5-10, respectively, states:

At a step 608 the consumer is instructed to visit a retailer to obtain a prize. The consumer presents the card 11 or a promotional item at a step 610. The retailer dials the winner's database at a step 612, inputs the card ID number at a step 614, and determines a match at a step 616. ... If a match occurs, the retailer receives an authorization code online or by phone from the host system at a step 630. The retailer then provides a receipt at a step 632 that is signed by the consumer, in which case the consumer may then exit the store with the award.

The primary function of the card is to provide an electronic identification procedure at the check-out counter or point of sale (POS)

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whereby the **identification information** can be compared with an award winner's award information in order to authorize payment by the incentive company (via an issuer) for a particular product or service. ...

The electronic card 11 may carry only one-half of the data desired to authorize fulfillment, namely, the information for verifying the winning consumer. Re-loadable card technology may include both the consumer identification, the particular item to be redeemed, the monetary credit for the item and other information. Where part of the information is stored on the electronic card 11, the other part of the information desired for authorization, verifying that the particular items or items that have been retrieved are the same items to be awarded to the cardholder, may required interaction with the retailer inventory system.

As such, Eggleston appears to disclose an award redemption transaction that includes verification by a retailer that a particular award or prize is associated with the particular consumer claiming the award or prize. Also, Eggleston discloses that identification information associated with the card is used for such verification. Thus, the award redemption transaction between the consumer and the retailer in Eggleston does not entail an exchange of currency (private or otherwise) between the consumer and the retailer that the retailer does not recognize. To the extent the card information is used for a transaction it is recognized by the retailer.

To the extent that the Examiner alleges that the user obtains incentive points (alleged first currency) to redeem the award/money at any retails [Final Action, pg. 4], this allegation is clearly erroneous because Eggleston fails to disclose that the award redemption transaction involves any incentive points that are not recognized by the retailer. Also, per Eggleston, a consumer redeems an award/prize at a registered retailer

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who offered the prize for an incentive program. Thus, the consumer is instructed to visit

the registered retailer (not any retailer) to obtain the award/prize.

Furthermore, in the "response to arguments" section of the Final Action, the Examiner further alleges that column 46, lines 4-55 of Eggleston discloses the step of reducing the points in the card as awards are being granted to the user. However, this cited portion of Eggleston does not even mention incentive points. The Examiner has failed to unambiguously relate how the features of Eggleston allegedly disclose the features of the claimed invention. As such, Appellant submits that none of Eggleston's

cited portions (e.g., col. 44, lines 40-49; col. 44, line 64- col. 45, line 67; and col. 46, lines

4-55) support the Examiner's various allegations.

Interpretation 2

Under an alternate interpretation, the Examiner alleges that in Eggleston, "one retailer" is a "first participant" and "another retailer" is the "second participant". [Final Action: pg. 4, lines 12-13]. The Examiner's alternate interpretation is likewise deficient as there appears to be no "transaction" between one retailer and another retailer.

The Examiner alleges that one retailer doesn't necessarily recognize another retailers' redemption points, but accepts the incentive points due to points in the card. The Examiner's allegation is erroneous because Eggleston does not appear to disclose transactions between two retailers. In particular, Eggleston fails to teach or suggest a transaction between two retailers that entails an exchange of currency (private or otherwise) between a first retailer and a second retailer that the second retailer does not recognize. In fact, Eggleston's award redemption transaction is between a consumer and a retailer. Accordingly, the Examiner's alternate interpretation is also improper.

Dethloff fails to cure the deficiencies of Eggleston Identified above. In particular, the Examiner does not rely on Dethloff to disclose Appellant's intermediary as claimed.

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Dethloff discloses a smart card or "M-card" which carries a program mechanism and central processing unit for manipulating values which can be stored in the card. Dethloff, however, fails to disclose transactions involving a first currency, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency. Other distinctions may exist.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Eggleston and Dethloff, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the above-mentioned features of Appellants' claim 1. As such, the rejection of claim 1 is improper and must be reversed. Independent Claims 15 and 29 includes features similar to those set forth in claim 1 and is allowable for at least the same reasons given relative to claim 1. Thus, the rejection of these claims is likewise improper and must be reversed.

Dependent claims 3-9, 11-14, 17-23, 25-28, 31-37, and 39-41 depend from one of claims 1, 15, or 29. Accordingly, the rejection of these claims is likewise improper and must be reversed at least by virtue of their dependencies as well as for their additional recitations.

ii. Dependent Claims 3-9, 14, 17-23, 28, and 31-37.

Dependent Claims 3, 17, and 31.

These dependent claims recite that the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the intermediary. The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches this feature at col. 44, line 64- col. 45, line 67. As mentioned above, Eggleston teaches an award redemption transaction between the consumer and the retailer that includes verification by the retailer that a particular award or prize is associated with the particular consumer claiming the award or prize. However, Eggleston fails to teach or suggest that the award redemption transaction involves a first currency that is not recognized by the retailer. Because Eggleston's transaction does not involve a first currency, Eggleston fails to teach or suggest that the amount of second currency

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incremented by the telecommunications connections (alleged intermediary) is determined based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the telecommunications connections. As such, the rejection of these claims is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

b. Dependent Claims 4, 18, and 32.

These dependent claims recite that the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria. The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches this feature at col. 21, line 4-28. This cited portion of Eggleston discusses a retailer's interaction with an award database, wherein the retailer may query the award database, may update the award database by adding or deleting prizes or changing prices or fulfillment options, etc. However, Eggleston fails to teach or suggest that the amount of second currency incremented by Eggleston's telecommunications connections (alleged intermediary) is determined based upon a set of conversion criteria. In fact, there is no mention of conversion criteria in Eggleston. As such, the rejection of these claims is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

Dependent Claims 5, 19, and 33.

These dependent claims recite that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes a time at which the request from the first participant is received. The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches this feature at col. 1, lines 46-62. This cited portion of Eggleston states:

"Traditional incentive programs systems suffer drawbacks in terms of convenience of tracking data, changing promotions, and the like. For example, for a consumer who participates in multiple incentive programs it may take time and effort to track his or her participation in each program. For example, time is required to keep track of loyalty points earned in each separate incentive program..."

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The fact that time and effort is required by consumers to keep track of loyalty points earned in separate incentive programs has nothing to do with using a time at which the request from the consumer (alleged first participant) is received as conversion criteria to determine the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary. As such, the Examiner's allegation is erroneous and the rejection is improper and must be reversed.

1 Dependent Claim 8.

This dependent claim recites that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the transaction. The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches this feature at col. 1, lines 46-62. As mentioned above, this cited portion does not mention conversion criteria, much less using one or more attributes of the transaction as conversion criteria to determine the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary. As such, the rejection of this claim is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

Dependent Claims 6-7, 20-22, and 34-36.

Dependent claims 6, 20, and 34 recite that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the first participant. Dependent claims 7, 21, and 35 recite that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the second participant. Dependent claims 22 and 36 recite that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the transaction.

The Examiner alleges that the features of these claims are taught by Eggleston at col. 41, lines 5-38; col. 27, lines 8-34; and col. 25, lines 15-49. Col. 41, lines 5-38 appears to describe various items stored in an award database. Col. 27, lines 8-34 appears to teach that consumers may query a consumer database for status information. Col. 25,

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lines 15-49 appears to teach that information provided by a consumer may be sent to an electronic card provider who then issues a card containing identification of the consumer. As such, none of the cited portions teach or suggest that attributes of the consumer (alleged first participant), attributes of the retailer (alleged second participant), or attributes of award redemption transaction (alleged transaction) are used as conversion criteria to determine the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary. As such, the rejection of these claims is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

f. Dependent Claims 9, 23, and 37.

These dependent claims recite that the set of one or more conversion criteria includes which products or services are involved in the transaction. The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches this feature at col. 41, lines 28-65 and col. 42, lines 38-57. These cited portions appear to describe a data structure of a sponsor database which may include information regarding award units and incentive programs. However, there is no mention of using information regarding which products or services are involved in a transaction as conversion criteria to determine the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary. As such, the rejection of these claims is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

g. Dependent Claims 14 and 28.

These dependent claims recite:

receive[ing] at the intermediary, from the first participant, a request to process a second transaction involving the first participant and a third participant using the first currency that is not recognized by the third participant;

decrement[ing], by the intermediary, an additional amount of the first currency associated with the first participant;

increment(ing), by the intermediary, an amount of third currency associated with the first participant, wherein the third currency is recognized by the third participant; and

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process[ing] the second transaction using the amount of the third currency.

The Examiner alleges that Eggleston teaches these features at col. 44, line 64 to col. 45, line 67 and col. 46, lines 4-55. As mentioned above, Eggleston teaches an award redemption transaction between the consumer and the retailer that includes verification by the retailer that a particular award or prize is associated with the particular consumer claiming the award or prize. However, Eggleston fails to teach or suggest that the award redemption transaction involves a first currency that is not recognized by the retailer. Even if Eggleston were to disclose a second award redemption transaction between the consumer and another retailer (though Appellant does not concede this), the second award redemption transaction would also not involve a first currency (private or otherwise) that is not recognized by the other retailer. As such, the rejection of these claims is improper and must be reversed for at least this reason.

VIII. CLAIMS APPENDIX - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(viii)

The pending claims (claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41) are attached in APPENDIX A.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ix)

APPENDIX B: None.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS INDEX - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(x)

APPENDIX C: None.

. . .

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Appellant requests that the rejection of claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-23, 25-29, 31-37 and 39-41 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: OCTOBER 13, 2009

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

By:

Nidhi Chotani Registration No. 59924

Customer No. 00909

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APPENDIX A: CLAIMS APPENDIX

 (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method of processing a transaction, comprising:

receiving at an intermediary, from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency;

decrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and incrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant; and

processing the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant.

(Cancelled)

- (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the intermediary.
- (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria.

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- (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes a time at which the request from the first participant is received.
- (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the first participant.
- (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the second participant.
- (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the transaction.
- (Original) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes which products or services are involved in the transaction.

10. (Cancelled)

- 11. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein decrementing a the balance of the first currency account and incrementing the balance of the second currency account are performed as an atomic transaction.
- (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
 incrementing the first currency associated with the first participant by the amount of first
 currency that was previously decremented if the transaction is not successfully processed.

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- 13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising decrementing the second currency associated with the first participant by the amount of second currency that was previously incremented.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising: receiving at the intermediary, from the first participant, a request to process a second transaction involving the first participant and a third participant using the first currency that is not recognized by the third participant;

decrementing, by the intermediary, an additional amount of the first currency associated with the first participant;

incrementing, by the intermediary, an amount of third currency associated with the first participant, wherein the third currency is recognized by the third participant; and processing the second transaction using the amount of the third currency.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium including computer-executable instructions for processing a transaction, the instructions operable when executed by one or more processors to cause the one or more processors to:

receive at an intermediary, from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency;

decrement, by the intermediary, an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and increment, by the intermediary, an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant; and

process the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant.

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16. (Cancelled)

- 17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented by the intermediary.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15, wherein the amount of second currency incremented by the intermediary is determined based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria.
- (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes a time at which the request from the first participant is received.
- (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18, wherein the set of
 one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the first participant.
- (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18, wherein the set of
 one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the second participant.
- 22. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 18, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the transaction.
- 23. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 22, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes which products or services are involved in the transaction.

24. (cancelled)

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- 25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15, wherein decrementing the balance of the first currency account and incrementing the balance of the second currency account are performed as an atomic transaction.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising computer-executable instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to increment the first currency associated with the first participant by the amount of first currency that was previously decremented if the transaction is not successfully processed.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 26, further comprising computer-executable instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to decrement the second currency associated with the first participant by the amount of second currency that was previously incremented.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 15, further comprising computer-executable instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to:

receive at the intermediary, from the first participant, a request to process a second transaction involving the first participant and a third participant using the first currency that is not recognized by the third participant;

decrement, by the intermediary, an additional amount of the first currency associated with the first participant;

increment, by the intermediary, an amount of third currency associated with the first participant, wherein the third currency is recognized by the third participant; and process the second transaction using the amount of the third currency.

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29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for processing a transaction, the apparatus comprising:

an input/output mechanism configured to receive, from a first participant in the transaction, a request to process the transaction using a first currency that is not recognized by a second participant in the transaction, wherein the first currency comprises a private currency; and

a transaction processor communicatively coupled to the input/output mechanism and configured to, in response to receiving the request from the first participant, decrement an amount of the first currency associated with the first participant by decrementing a balance of a first currency account of the first participant, and increment an amount of second currency associated with the first participant by incrementing a balance of a second currency account of the first participant, wherein the second currency is recognized by the second participant, and process the transaction using the amount of second currency associated with the first participant.

30. (Cancelled)

- 31. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the transaction processor is further configured to determine the amount of second currency to be incremented based upon at least the amount of first currency decremented.
- 32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the transaction processor is further configured to determine the amount of second currency incremented based upon at least a set of one or more conversion criteria.
- 33. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 32, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes a time at which the request from the first participant is received.

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- 34. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 32, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the first participant.
- 35. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 32, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the second participant.
- 36. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 32, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes one or more attributes of the transaction.
- 37. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 36, wherein the set of one or more conversion criteria includes which products or services are involved in the transaction.

38. (Cancelled)

- 39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the transaction processor is further configured to decrement the balance of the first currency account and increment the balance of the second currency account as an atomic transaction.
- 40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the transaction processor is further configured to increment the first currency associated with the first participant by the amount of first currency that was previously decremented if the transaction is not successfully processed.
- 41. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 40, wherein the transaction processor is further configured to decrement the second currency associated with the first participant by the amount of second currency that was previously incremented.

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42. (Withdrawn) A method for allowing a user to use private currency provided by a particular entity to make purchases from a vendor that does not recognize the private currency, the method comprising the steps of:

establishing a first account and a second account for the user;

wherein the first account indicates an amount of the private currency;

wherein the second account indicates an amount for a type of currency that is
recognized by the vendor;

the user expressing an interest in making a purchase from the vendor;

based on an exchange formula, decrementing the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account; and

- using currency from the second account to pay for at least part of the purchase.
- 43. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, further comprising the step of selecting the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the time period during which the purchase is made.
- 44. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, further comprising the step of selecting the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the identity of the user.
- 45. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein the particular entity assigns users to classes, and the method comprises the step of selecting the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the class to which the entity has assigned the user.
- 46. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, further comprising the step of selecting the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the identity of the vendor.
- 47. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein the particular entity assigns vendors to classes, and the method comprises the step of selecting the exchange

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formula, at least in part, based on the class to which the entity has assigned the vendor.

- 48. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein the steps of decrementing the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account are performed as an atomic unit.
- 49. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, wherein the steps of decrementing the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account are performed in response to receipt of confirmation of the purchase.
- (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 42, further comprising the steps of: receiving an indication that the user intends to make the purchase;

in response to the indication, putting at least a portion of the private currency in the first account in reserve;

receiving a confirmation of the purchase, in response to the confirmation, performing the step of decrementing, wherein the step of decrementing includes removing the portion that is on hold from the first account.

51. (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for allowing a user to use private currency provided by a particular entity to make purchases from a vendor that does not recognize the private currency, the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

establish a first account and a second account for the user;
wherein the first account indicates an amount of the private currency;
wherein the second account indicates an amount for a type of currency that is
recognized by the vendor:

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the user expressing an interest in making a purchase from the vendor;

based on an exchange formula, decrement the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account; and

use currency from the second account to pay for at least part of the purchase.

- 52. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, further comprising one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to select the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the time period during which the purchase is made.
- 53. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, further comprising one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to select the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the identity of the user.
- 54. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, wherein the particular entity assigns users to classes, and the computer-readable medium further comprises one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to select the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the class to which the entity has assigned the user.
- 55. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, further comprising one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to select the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the identity of the vendor.
- 56. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, wherein the particular entity assigns vendors to classes, and the computer-readable medium further

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comprises one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to select the exchange formula, at least in part, based on the class to which the entity has assigned the vendor.

- 57. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, wherein the steps of decrementing the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account are performed as an atomic unit.
- 58. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, wherein the steps of decrementing the amount in the first account and incrementing the amount in the second account are performed in response to receipt of confirmation of the purchase.
- 59. (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, further comprising one or more sequences of additional instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receive an indication that the user intends to make the purchase:

in response to the indication, putting at least a portion of the private currency in the first account in reserve:

receive a confirmation of the purchase:

in response to the confirmation, performing the step of decrementing, wherein the step of decrementing includes removing the portion that is on hold from the first account. APPELLANT'S BRIEF ON APPEAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

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APPENDIX B

EVIDENCE APPENDIX - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ix)

NONE.

APPELLANT'S BRIEF ON APPEAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

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APPENDIX (

RELATED PROCEEDINGS INDEX - 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(x)

NONE.

EXHIBIT A

04-18-2001

CORDATION FORM COVER SHEET

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

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PATENTS ONLY

to use Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:	Please record the attached dispinis decultarius of copy parted.
1. Name of conveying party(les): Inktomi Corporation Additional name(s) of conveying party(se) attached? □ Yes & No	Name and address of receiving party(les) Name: e-centives, Inc. Internal Address:
3. Nature of conveyance: © Assignment	Street Address: 6901 Rockledge Drive, Seventh Floor City: Bethesda State: MD ZIP: 20817. Additional name(s) & address(ss) attached? D Yes XX No
Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed together with a new application A. Patent Application No.(s) 09/186,044 09/53,040 60/203,422 09/713,135 09/747,656 Addisional numbers a	on, the execution date of the application la: B. Patent No.(a)
5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed: Name: Valerie Brennan, Esq. Internal Address: 1. 2000 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)
DO NOT U	SE THIS SPACE
the original document. Valerie Brennan Name of Person Signing	Mation is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of April 11 2001 Signature Generative, and document

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, Inktomi Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "Assignor," a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware with a place of business at 4100 East Third Avenue, Foster City, CA 94404, is the sole owner of the entire right, title and interest in, to, and under the pending applications listed on the attached Schedule A; and

WHEREAS, e-centives, Inc., hereinafter referred to as "Assignee," a corporation of Delaware, with a place of business at 6901 Rockledge Drive, Seventh Floor, Bethesda, MD 20817 is desirous of obtaining the entire right, title and interest in, to and under said pending applications;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignor has sold, assigned, transferred and set over, and by these presents does hereby sell, assign, transfer and set over, unto said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, its entire right, title and interest in, to and under the said pending applications, as well as all divisions, renewals and continuations thereof, and all Letters Patent of the United States which may be granted thereon and all reissues and extensions thereof, and all applications for Letters Patent which may hereafter be filed for inventions embodied by said pending applications in any country or countries foreign to the United States, and all Letters Patent which may be granted for said inventions embodied by said pending applications in any country or countries foreign to the United States and all extensions, renewals and reissues thereof and all rights of priority in any such country or countries based upon the filing of said pending applications in the United States which are created by any law, treaty or international convention; and I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents of the United States, and any Official of any country or countries foreign to the United States, whose duty it is to issue patents on any such applications as aforesaid, to issue all Letters Patent for said inventions to e-centives, Inc., its successors, legal representatives and assigns, in accordance with the terms of this instrument.

AND Assignor does hereby covenant that it has full right to convey the entire interest herein assigned, and that Assignor has not executed, and will not execute, any agreement in conflict herewith.

AND Assignor does further hereby covenant and agree that it will communicate to said Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, any facts known to it respecting said pending applications, and testify in any legal proceeding, sign all lawful papers, execute all divisional, continuing and reissue applications, make all rightful oaths and generally do everything reasonably necessary, all at Assignee's expense and request and without disruption to

Assignor's dusiness activines, to aid said Assignet, its successors, regai representatives and assigns, to obtain and enforce any attendant rights in all countries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Inktomi Corporation has caused this instrument to be signed by a duly authorized corporate officer and its corporate seal to be affixed, as of this day of Maseh 2001.

INKTOMI CORPORATION

By:

Name JEHY KENNELLY

CHEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

STATE OF California SS

COUNTY OF San Lister SS

SS

COUNTY OF San Lister SS

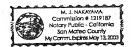
On this 19 day of March. 2001 before me personally appeared

Levy Kennelly to me personally known, who, being duly sworn, did say that the is the

OR of Inktomi Corporation and that afthe duly executed the foregoing instrument for and on behalf of Inktomi Corporation being duly authorized to do so and that said individual acknowledged said instrument to be the free act and deed of said corporation.

Notary Public

My commission expires: May 13, 2003



Schedule A

LIST OF PATENTS

Title: Presentation of Search Results Using Dynamic Categorization
Inventors: Michael Tso, Jefferey Clarke, Eugene Rollins, Arkady Borkovsky

Filing Date: November 3, 1998

File Type: Utility
Application No.: 09/186.044

Status: Pending

Title: Tracking Transactions by Using Addresses in a Communications Network

Inventors: Eugene Rollins, Michael Tso, Sailendra Padala, Norbert Hendrikse, Paul

Gauthier

Filing Date: December 22, 2000

File Type: Utility
Application No.: 09/747,666

Status: Pending

Title: Item Name Normalization

Inventors: Arkady Borkovsky Filing Date: September 1, 2000

File Type: 09/653,040
Application No.: Utility

Status: Pending

Title: Using Private Currency to Purchase from Vendors That Do Not Recognize

Inventors: Michael Tso
Filing Date: May 10, 2000
File Type: Provisional

Application No.: 60/203,422

Status: Pending

Title: Approach for Processing Electronic Orders

Inventors: Norbert Hendrikse, Sailendra Padala, Pradeep Javangula

Filing Date: November 14, 2000

File Type: Utility
Application No.: 09/713,135

Status: Pending

LIST OF PATENTS

Title: Pre-Filling Order Forms for Transactions Over a Communications Network

Filing Date: December 22, 2000

Application No.: 09/747,651

Title: Providing Navigation Objects for Communications Over a Network Filing Date: December 22, 2000

Application No.: 09/747,656